



# St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

7237 Morrow Road, Agassiz, British Columbia V0M 1A3 (604) 796-9181

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*We, the Catholic community of St. Anthony of Padua, relying on the wisdom and the grace of God, unite ourselves to the call for renewal and transformation of our spiritual, social and economic life.*

## July 12, 2020 – Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Pastor:** Fr. Dennis O. Flores

[dflores@rcav.org](mailto:dflores@rcav.org)

**Deacon:** Jamie Meskas

[jamiemeskas@gmail.com](mailto:jamiemeskas@gmail.com)

**Administrative Assistant:** Beccie Bokenfohr

[st.anthonys@shaw.ca](mailto:st.anthonys@shaw.ca)

(604) 796-9181

Jean Van Tryp, Elizabeth Ryan, Christopher Waight, Jane Van Laerhoven, Susan Pergel, Beryl Sheard

Please pray for the most recently deceased: Sean Paul Claggett,

**Sunday Mass Times:** 9 am and 11 am

**Weekday Mass Times:** Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday – 9 am; Tuesday – 7 pm

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** 20 minutes prior to Mass times and/or by appointment

**Adoration of Blessed Sacrament:** First Friday of each month 9:30 am to 10:30 am

### Mass Intentions July 12 to 18, 2020

Saturday	July 11	5 pm	Your own intentions
Sunday	July 12	9 am	Leonna & Stan Sharkey
		11 am	Ron Rochleau
Monday	July 13	9 am	David & Caroline Ori+
Tuesday	July 14	7 pm	Leonna & Stan Sharkey
Wednesday	July 15	9 am	Dave and Caroline Ori+
Thursday	July 16	9 am	Special intention
Friday	July 17	9 am	Francis Cautinhot & the souls of priests & religious
Saturday	July 18	9 am	St. Anthony's Parish

### Last Sunday's Collection

Loose	\$121.20
Envelopes	\$1255.00
<b>Total Collections</b>	<b>\$1376.20</b>

Please pray for those who are ill or housebound in our

**Parish family:** Peggy Turner, Cheryl Yaretz, Lyn Milburn, Ralph and Jeanette Watson, Janet Quinn, Paul Van Scheyndel, Wayne Turner, Pat Donegan, Darcy Kohuch, Sr. Celine Graf,

## Stewardship Reflection

*July 12, 2020 - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*"The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word but then the cares of the world and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit." (Matthew 13:22)*

Does the lure of riches and material goods choke God out of your life? Are you so caught up in earthly activities that you have no time for God? Gratitude and generosity are virtues that we should strive to do on a daily basis. Every decision we make either takes us one step closer to God or one step further away. What we receive at Mass every Sunday should be shared with others all the other days of the week as well.

# AGASSIZ FAMILY

## CHIROPRACTIC CENTRE

6660 Pioneer Avenue, Agassiz, BC 604 796 3559  
Dr. Darren Paul, BSc; Dr. Zach Paul, DC

[www.agassizchiro.com](http://www.agassizchiro.com)



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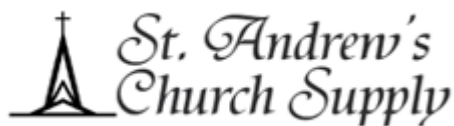
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**Field Agent**

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Our daily weekday Masses and Sunday Mass are live on Facebook for you to see each day. Please find us on our Facebook page: **St Anthony of Padua - Agassiz**





# PROJECT ADVANCE 2020

## Our **Catholic Response** to the Crisis

Project Advance has some key changes this year. Archdiocesan funding priorities from this year's Appeal will be directed to a newly established Crisis Response Fund, to help vulnerable individuals and families during this time of pandemic, alongside other ministries of evangelization and outreach. The Archdiocesan goal has been reduced to \$1.625 million and St. Anthony of Padua - Agassiz's target has been reduced from \$9,500 to \$4,750.



## Refugee Fundraising Drive:

The Agassiz Refugee Committee, which includes three local churches, including our St. Anthony of Padua parish, is holding a fundraising drive. This drive is to help with the support of the two families we presently sponsor, plus another family, a Catholic family from Pakistan, who should arrive within a year or so. Pakistani Christians are arrested needlessly, and suffer great trials. Father Dennis will look after and accept the offerings in the name of the Refugee Committee. Checks should be marked, "For Refugee Program". Please include your church envelop number as well. Thank you for your kindness.

# Dioceses reach out to Pakistani Christians

By Michael Swan

Catholics from coast to coast are rallying to answer a call to help resettle Christian Pakistani refugees stuck in Bangkok.

At least eight Canadian dioceses, including Vancouver, have pledged to raise money and gather volunteers to give a new Canadian home to up to 65 families eligible for resettlement.

The pledges of support come in response to a mission trip to Bangkok by the Archdiocese of Toronto Office for Refugees to vet candidates for resettlement.

That trip spurred a *Catholic Register* series about the community of Pakistanis in the Thai capital on the run from their country's harsh blasphemy laws.

"When their suffering is brought to (Canadian Catholics') attention, as was done through *The Catholic Register*, people want to respond," said Office for Refugees director Deacon Rudy Ovcjak. "You can't help but

be moved by the suffering of this community — to know not only their suffering in Pakistan but their ongoing suffering in Bangkok."

As a major sponsorship agreement holder with the federal government, the Archdiocese of Toronto has pledged to sponsor 18 of the 65 verified refugee families. Toronto has also heard from refugee sponsorship officials and parishes in the dioceses of Montreal, Grouard-McLennan (northwestern Alberta), Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Halifax and Peterborough.

Ovcjak expected that number to increase following the Sept. 23-27 Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops annual plenary meetings in Cornwall, Ont. A letter appealing for sponsorship help has gone out to every bishop in Canada from the CCCB, and Toronto Archbishop Cardinal Thomas Collins planned to address the issue with his fellow bishops.

The case for sponsoring the Pakistanis rests on

their suffering, said Ovcjak. "They're hunted down by the Thai Immigration Police and placed into hugely overcrowded detention centres. And there they stay," Ovcjak said.

"Their only remedy out of that is two choices — either go back to Pakistan where the likely prospect of death awaits you, or you hope for assistance from societies in the West to resettle them. Many of them have been languishing in those detention centres for years on end."

Antoinette Godbout, refugee sponsorship co-ordinator with the Calgary Catholic Immigration Society, said her organization has pledged to sponsor three families.

"When we hear about a group that is being persecuted and also not noticed — not being recognized by other governments, by media, by in general world attention — I feel extra compassion and inspiration to reach out to those people," she said. □

## Sponsorship Drive... for Refugee Program

- Three local churches, make up our local Refugee Committee. We are the
  - a. Agassiz Christian Reform Church
  - b. All Saints Anglican Church, and
  - c. St. Anthony of Padua parish
- We work under the umbrella of the Mennonite Central Committee, which holds a refugee sponsorship agreement with the federal government.
- The Committee's mandate is to help new families settle in Agassiz.
- In October of 2019 we welcomed, from Burundi, Gilbert and Amina and their 4 children.



- In December, 2019, we welcomed, from Pakistan, Melvin and Nusrat, and their three adult children.



- In about a year, we will be welcoming, also from Pakistan, a Catholic family, Parvez and Yasmin, and their 3 children. Many dioceses across Canada, including our own, are pledging to sponsor Pakistan refugees who, because of Pakistan's Blasphemy Law are treated harshly. (See attachment)



- The committee normally helps sponsor families for one year with English, schooling and job training.
- After a year of sponsorship, it is hoped that the family will be able to be self-sufficient.

**Please Note:** The Refugee Committee is presently **holding a drive** to help support our local Refugee Program. If you are able to help, we thank you. On your check, please denote “For Refugee Program”. For income tax purposes, add your church envelop number as well. Kindly give your donation to Father Dennis.

# Prevent the spread of COVID-19

## HEALTH CHECK REMINDER

- Are you feeling healthy and well?
- Have you been with anyone who is now showing symptoms?
- Do you practice these skills to stop the spread of COVID-19?

- frequent hand washing



- physical distancing outside of your household



- avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth

- cover your cough using the bend of your elbow



- wear a mask when unable to maintain physical distance



- avoid crowded places & close contact with anyone who is sick

- use disinfectant on surfaces



- Are you expanding your bubble slowly and with caution?

We encourage everyone to be kind, be calm, and be safe!

SOURCE: BCCDC & WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

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